

**Porter Avenue Corridor  
Steering Committee meeting  
Tuesday, March 23, 2010 4:00-5:30PM  
Multipurpose Room, 201 West Gray**

Steering Committee met to hear a presentation (see link) by City of Norman Public Works Director Shawn O'Leary on Transportation Alternatives for Porter Avenue. City staff has recognized that regardless of streetscape designs or other improvements that could be made along Porter Avenue, there are basically four possible traffic alternatives for the street, each of which has costs and benefits to the community. The four scenarios:

Alternative 1. Do nothing along Porter Avenue

Alternative 2. Build a 4-Lane Improved Roadway (total roadway width: 52 feet)

Alternative 3. Build a 3-Lane Roadway with modern roundabouts at Acres, Alameda (total roadway width: 40 feet)

Alternative 4. Build a 5-Lane Roadway with modern roundabouts at Acres, Alameda (total roadway width: 64 feet)

O'Leary discussed the process by which the Traffic Division staff had analyzed and modeled these four alternatives in order to fairly compare "apples to apples." All four alternatives were analyzed with an assumption of an annual 2% growth in traffic volumes between 2010 and 2030. It is important to note that the alternatives were studied independent of current or future traffic patterns on other Norman roads.

Lastly because traffic models only weigh technical factors and cannot measure intangibles such as the value a community places on aesthetics, various costs of undertaking a project, or the importance of pedestrian friendliness, O'Leary proposed to combine technical considerations with the intangibles by administering a survey to the Porter Corridor Steering Committee to allow some quantification community values as the community evaluates future alternatives for the roadway. O'Leary then asked Steering Committee members to fill out the survey form by ranking various factors used in making a decision about future activity on Porter Avenue. Committee members spent some time completing these ballots.

Lastly Planning Director Susan Connors and Project Manager Susan Atkinson made a brief presentation on the proposed content of the Porter Corridor Zoning Overlay District (ZOD), which would include Design Guidelines that would apply to new or substantially renovated properties along Porter Avenue.

Susan Connors announced that the Steering Committee would meet again on Tuesday, April 6 at 4:00PM to discuss specific proposed content of the ZOD.